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(54) **Beverage dispenser with multi-chambered carousel and automatic coordination of flavorant flow rate**

(57) An appliance (10) includes a dispenser (112) for dispensing a mixture of a diluent and a consumable. The mixture may be a beverage wherein the diluent is water and the consumable is a flavorant. The dispenser (112) includes a pressure sensor (138) for measuring the pressure of the diluent at the inlet. The rate at which the consumable is added to the diluent is dependent upon the pressure of the diluent at the inlet. The consumable may be provided in a single container (124), or a user may specify a particular type of consumable from a plurality of containers (324) provided on a rotation carousel (342).

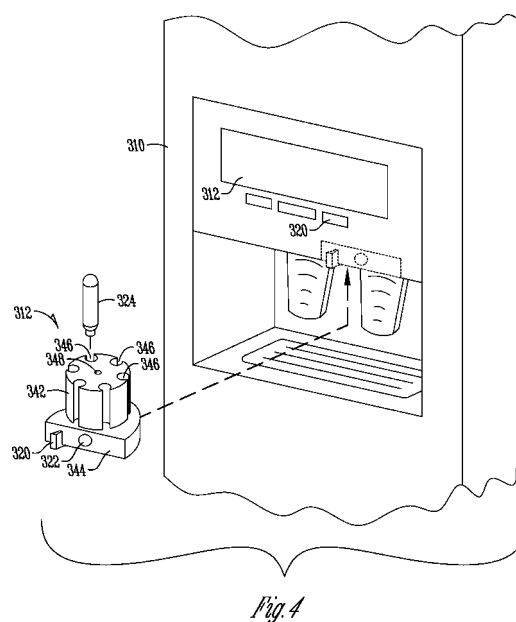


Fig. 4



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 11 18 6538

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 2008/047973 A1 (ELSOM KYLE B [US] ET AL) 28 February 2008 (2008-02-28)	1-4	INV. B67D1/00 B67D1/08 B67D1/12
Y	* page 4, column 1, line 1 - line 7 * * page 4, column 1, line 22 - line 31 * * page 3, column 2, line 13 - line 19 *	5	
X	EP 0 387 477 A1 (ROPA WASSERAUFBEREITUNGS ANLAG [AT]) 19 September 1990 (1990-09-19) * column 6, line 12 - line 18; claims 4,5,9 *	1-4	
Y	EP 1 489 042 A1 (WHITLENGE DRINK EQUIPMENT LTD [GB]) 22 December 2004 (2004-12-22) * paragraphs [0036], [0037] * * paragraph [0059] *	5	
A	WO 96/36556 A1 (COCA COLA CO [US]) 21 November 1996 (1996-11-21) * abstract *	1,6	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B67D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 19 January 2012	Examiner Desittere, Michiel
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

see additional sheet(s)

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

EP 11 18 6538

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-5

A household appliance with a water inlet, a consumable dispenser and a controller which varies the consumable dispensing rate based on the water pressure

2. claims: 6-15

A household appliance with a flavoured water dispenser comprising a rotatable carousel for receiving containers and comprising a sensor for a container and a display.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

19-01-2012

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			WO 9636556 A1	21-11-1996

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82